GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Mandatory contributions by institutions administered by the Endowments Department – Rationalization – Issue of orders – Regarding.

REVENUE (ENDOWMENTS.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 927 Dated: 01-10-2015
Read:

G.O.Ms.No.921, Rev. (Endts.I) Dept., dt.29.7.2008.

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O R D E R:

All the institutions which are being administered by the Endowments Department namely temples, mutts, charitable trusts, etc. are mandated to make annual contribution to a common pool established by the Government. This amount is fixed as a percentage of the total assessable income of these institutions. The 4 major contributions are the Endowment Administrative Fund, Common Good Fund, Archaka Welfare Fund and the Audit Fee. The Government from time to time has been reviewing these arrangements and making suitable modifications keeping the interests of the temples and mutts in view.

2. The Government has noted that a large number of temples are being administered by the Endowment Department and a good number of them are in need of urgent repairs and renovations. This expenditure can be met only from Common Good Fund. Moreover major events like the recent Godavari Pushkarams and the forthcoming Krishna Pushkarams necessitate renovation of a large number of temples at one time which the Endowment Department cannot handle with the meager funds available at its disposal under Common Good Fund.

3. Secondly, on the basis of a land mark decision taken by the Dharmik Parishad which is the apex body for the Endowments Department, a Trust has been created to propagate and preserve Hindu Dharma by the name Hindu Dharma Parirakshna Trust (HDPT). This trust is also in need of a certain minimum resources for undertaking various activities which it is not able to do so at present.

4. In addition a portion of the Common Good Fund is being utilized for Dhoopa Deepa Naivedyam Scheme (DDNS) as provided for Section 70(b) (1) of the A.P. Endowment Act. There are still several small temples in remote villages lacking patronage and with very meager or no income. There is a need to support more such small temples under DDNS.

5. Lastly, the Government has also observed that officials of the Endowments Department are collecting mandatory contributions from small temples with very meager income of Rs.50,000. As rupee value has drastically depreciated, Rs.50,000 is not sufficient to run the affairs of even a small temple today. Hence, there is a great need to exempt small temples with very meager income from payment of statutory contributions**.**

6. Further the receipts of the Endowments Department by way of contribution and expenditure under Endowment Administrative Fund has constantly shown as surplus because of which the Government has recently contributed a fund of Rs.100 Crores from out of the surplus contribution of Endowments Department for the Archakas and Other

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Employees Salary and Remuneration Fund. In view of this, the present contribution to Endowment Administrative Fund has been reviewed and it has been decided to rationalize the contribution to meet the various needs of the Hindu religious institutions.

7. Accordingly, the Government after careful examination of the whole issue, issues the following orders:

1) Henceforth the Endowment Administration Fund will be 8% instead of 12% of the assessable income of Endowment institutions.

2) The Common Good Fund will be 9% instead of the existing 5%.

   a. Henceforth 7% of the 9% contributed to Common Good Fund shall be utilized for undertaking renovation and reconstruction of temples and Doopa Deepa Naivedyam Scheme.

   b. 2% out of the 9% contributed to Common Good Fund shall be compulsorily allocated for Hindu Dharmik activities. This amount shall be kept at the disposal of the Hindu Dharma Parirakshana Trust in a separate account on a quarterly basis.

3) All small temples which come under the purview of Section 6(c) of the A.P. Endowment Act shall be fully exempted from payment of any mandatory contributions hereafter.

8. The Commissioner of Endowments shall take necessary action.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

J.S.V. PRASAD
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Commissioner, Endowments, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER